

Appl. No. 10/603,522  
Atty. Docket No. AA597  
Amdt. dated September 20, 2005  
Reply to Office Action of June 20, 2005  
Customer No. 27752

### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An absorbent article, comprising:  
a body contacting layer;  
a garment contacting layer; and  
an absorbent core disposed between the body contacting layer and the garment contacting layer, the absorbent core having a core edge;

the core edge defining a core region within the core edge and an outer region outside the core region;

the body contacting layer and the garment contacting layer extending outward into the outer region and joined together in the outer region;

the garment contacting layer having a graphic printed on ~~the~~ a body facing surface at least in a portion of the outer region; and

the body contacting layer having a first light transmittance so that the graphic printed on the body facing surface of the garment contacting layer can be seen through the body contacting layer in the outer region.

2. (Currently Amended) An absorbent article, comprising:  
a body contacting layer;  
a garment contacting layer; and  
an absorbent core disposed between the body contacting layer and the garment contacting layer, the absorbent core having a core edge;

the core edge defining a core region within the core edge and an outer region outside the core region;

the body contacting layer and the garment contacting layer extending outward into the outer region and joined together in the outer region;

the body contacting layer having a graphic printed on ~~the~~ a garment facing surface at least in a portion of the outer region; and

the body contacting layer having a first light transmittance so that the graphic printed on the garment facing surface of the body contacting layer can be seen through the body contacting layer in the outer region.

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3. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of the claim 1, wherein the garment contacting layer has a second light transmittance so that the graphic on the body facing surface can be seen through the garment contacting layer.
4. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of the claim 1, wherein the first light transmittance is at least about 10%.
5. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of the claim 3, wherein the second light transmittance is at least about 10%.
6. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of the claim 3, wherein the difference between the first and second light transmittances is less than about 70%.
7. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of the claim 3, wherein the difference between the first and second light transmittances is greater than about 10%.
8. (Currently Amended) The absorbent article of the claim 1, wherein the absorbent article has the a Hunter Lab Total Color Difference between the outer region and the core region of about 0.5-73.
9. (Original) The absorbent article of the claim 2, wherein the body contacting layer includes a liquid permeable topsheet layer disposed in the core region, and a graphic protection layer disposed in the outer region,  
the graphic protection layer has the graphic printed on the garment facing surface,  
and  
the graphic protection layer has the first light transmittance so that the graphic printed on the garment facing surface of the graphic protection layer can be seen through the graphic protection layer in the outer region.
10. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of the claim 1, wherein the core edge of the absorbent core includes longitudinal side edges and lateral end edges, and the outer region is disposed outside the longitudinal side edges of the absorbent core.

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11. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of the claim 1, wherein the core edge of the absorbent core includes longitudinal side edges and lateral end edges, and the outer region is disposed outside the lateral end edges of the absorbent core.
12. (Currently Amended) The absorbent article of the claim 10, wherein the body contacting layer and the garment contacting layer extend outward into the outer region to form a flap (i.e., wing).
13. (Original) The absorbent article of the claim 1, wherein the body contacting layer includes a liquid permeable topsheet layer disposed in the core region, and a graphic protection layer disposed in the outer region.
14. (Currently Amended) The absorbent article of the claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ a graphic protection layer has a hydrophobic nature to prevent body fluids discharged at the topsheet layer from wicking therethrough.